

Tues, Dec 12th: LWVGP Holiday Cheer Party
[Print out & return the RSVP form](#)

Grosse Pointe *VOTER*

Serving the Communities of
Grosse Pointe, Grosse Pointe Farms, Grosse Pointe Park, Grosse Pointe Shores,
Grosse Pointe Woods, and Harper Woods

Activities This Month:

November 2017

From the Prez...

Tues, Dec 12th

6:00 pm

LWVGP Holiday Cheer Party

Home of Deb Sloss

Grosse Pointe Park

Reservations must be made (with \$30 payment per person) by December 1st.

[Print out the RSVP form](#)

for additional details & to mail back

Sun, Nov 19th

1:00 pm

Vote Smart Presentation

Anton Frankel Center

20 S. Main

Mt Clemens, MI 48043

Keep reading below for additional details. Hope to see you there!

Dec 12 LWVGP Holiday Cheer Party

Dear LWV members,

As the song goes, "It's the most wonderful time of the year!" Please join us **December 12th at**

6:00 for our annual LWV Holiday Cheer party to be held at the Sloss home at 1238 Whittier Grosse Pointe Park.

[Edibles Rex](#) is our caterer and the cost of \$30.00 per person includes appetizers, desserts, and drinks (wine & soft drinks).

Reservations must be made, complete with payment, by December 1 2017.

I am looking forward to seeing you soon!

Questions, contact me at RSVPHoliday@grossepointe.mi.lwvnet.org



As we look forward to the fun time for the Holiday Party, an issue has arisen that everyone should pay some attention to; namely, the current Michigan legislature is attempting to pass new legislation that would essentially allow guns in all public places, including schools, sporting events, meeting halls, City Council meetings, etc. There will be an action alert from the LWV Michigan after the anticipated passage by the House after the recess ends on November 28th. In addition, I urge everyone to use whatever means they are comfortable with to send the message to Governor Snyder (and anyone else that may have influence in the process) that this legislation is just **WRONG!**

Elected officials listen to us. The aide that was a speaker at this Tuesday's panel about gun control told us that elected officials give the following importance of constituents giving opinions: 1. Showing up in person; 2. Phone messages; 3. Snail mail message; and, 4. Email messages.

At the Gun Control meeting on Tuesday, at the suggestion of JoAnn Kelly and Christina Schlitt, we had 200 postcards printed with the message:

To:

*I/We strongly oppose current proposed legislation SB 584-586. Putting more guns in public places is **WRONG!***

Sincerely,

We told the audience (of about 50) that LWVGP would address and mail the postcards to the official they addressed the card to. We only have 3 left. Most are sending it to Governor Snyder. Don't forget that you can find links to your government officials [on our website](#).

Happy Thanksgiving, and I look forward to seeing you at the Holiday Party on December 12th.

Look for the next Voter at the end of December.

Happy Fall to all.

Tom
C. Thompson Wells, Jr. President

Warmly,
Deb Sloss

[Click here and print out the
RSVP form](#)

News from Macomb County Voter Services

The MCVS unit would like to welcome new members: Laurie; Nanette; Elinor and Barbara to our group! We are so excited to have you on our team! There is so much work to be done and it's great to have fresh faces and new ideas for accomplishing the goals of the League.

Christina Schlitt and Paula Bowman are serving as coaches for our Membership Leadership Development. We thank them for taking time out of their busy schedules to help us grow and become an even stronger presence in Macomb County.

Our leadership team met on November 6th to put the final touches on our Member-At-Large (MAL) application to the LWVMI State Board. Our hope is to present to the State Board in Lansing on December 2, 2017.

This is an exciting time for us, but, we will miss being a part of the Grosse Pointe League. We have a deep appreciation to Tom and to all of the Grosse Pointe LWV members for mentoring us and helping us along the way. Thank you all for being there and for answering so many questions on a great number of issues!

Because of the close relationship we have with the LWVGP, we expect our paths to cross many times over the months and years ahead. We consider all of you as our friends, not just as league friends, but as friends in life, too.

Kathy

Check us out at our [webpage](#) and our [Facebook page](#)

Membership Matters

The League of Women Voters would like to welcome new members Elinor Sweet, Margaret Freundl, Laurie Artz, Nanette Noorbakhsh, Barbara Walsh, Leigh and Mike Benigni, Reid Kurvink and Julie Moran.

We hope to meet you at a future league event!

The League of Women Voters of Grosse Pointe

Programs Ahead

As the end of 2017 approaches, the final schedule for our 2017-2018 programs is coming together.

11/19 On **November 19**, LWVGP will be co-sponsoring **Richard Kimball of [Vote Smart](#)** with LWP Oakland Area and the Baldwin Public Library.
Location and time are:

**Anton Frankel Center
20 S. Main
Mt Clemens, MI 48043
1:00 p.m.**

Mr Kimball will discuss Vote Smart's website, [Votesmart.org](#). This interactive website helps visitors research candidates by compiling non-partisan data on their biographies, votes, positions and funding.

12/12 To round out the calendar year, our **annual holiday party** will be hosted by Deb Sloss on **December 12** at her home in GP Park. Please see Deb's personal invitation in this issue of The Voter, and make sure to get your RSVP in. Thanks so much, Deb, for opening up your home to us for the holidays! RSVPs--with payment--are due by Dec 1st. [Print out your RSVP form here](#) to mail back.

1/18 We'll start the year off right with our **annual programming meeting** on **January 18**, hosted by Ann Nicholson at her home in the Farms. The meeting will begin at 6:30, and further details will be in the next issue of The Voter.

2/19 On **February 19**, LWVGP will welcome Vicki Thompson-Sandy, President of [Samaritas](#) to discuss immigration and how changes to DACA [Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals] can impact our community and nation.

3/19 Reverend Faith Fowler, executive director of [Cass Community Social Services](#), has been in the news lately as she has lead the construction of tiny homes in the Cass Corridor and the building of small solar panels to help those affected by Hurricane Maria in Puerto Rico. Reverend Fowler will join us at 7:00 p.m., **March 19**, to tell us more about her innovative ways to help those in need - here and abroad.

5/12 Lastly, our annual meeting will once again be breakfast at the Country Club of Detroit. Mark your calendars for **May 12!**

Beth Newhart
Vice President, Programs

Voter Services Report

Membership renewal notices were mailed in October for members who joined July 1, 2016 through December 31, 2016. Renewal checks are due by November 30, 2017. Surveys were also mailed to members who have not completed one in 2017. If you receive a survey, please return it with your membership dues. Responses will help to identify your interests, skills and availability for volunteer opportunities within the league.

Volunteers are needed for activities such as helping write articles for the *Grosse Pointe News*, assist in organizing future meetings, and helping with candidate forums. You decide how much time you can give to league activities. It is also a great opportunity for new members to learn about the league and meet other members. We appreciate all that you do for the league and what you can do in the future.

If you want the opportunity to volunteer, please contact our president Tom Wells or Beth Newhart, VP Program. Tom may be reached by email at: prez@grossepointe.mi.lwvnet.org; Beth may be reached at: program@grossepointe.mi.lwvnet.org.

Our holiday party is scheduled for **December 12, 2017**. An announcement can be found in this newsletter. Please hold the date on your calendar. Other exciting events will be announced in this Voter and future newsletters.

If you have any questions regarding membership, feel free to contact me. My email address is: stormmimi@yahoo.com

Thank you,
Wilhelmina Giblin,
Co-Director of Membership

*Do you know a family member or friend who is thinking about joining?
[Hand them one of our membership forms to mail in!](#)*

*Learn all about the League.
[Check out the LWV's New Member Handbook here.](#)*

Our Sympathies....

Sadly, we have two losses to report.

We were sad to hear that **Bob Ruggioli**, Sharon's husband, passed away October 1 after a lengthy illness. Sharon has been a member since 2005, and worked especially hard on our annual Mum Sale fundraiser. Our gains were substantially enhanced by the sale of her wonderful brownies and cookies!

Voter Services conducted two Candidate Forums for local, contested races during the month of October.



The first was held October 10, 2017 at the Grosse Pointe War Memorial; the forum was for the **City of Grosse Pointe Mayor and Council races**. The following candidates participated in the forum: Mayor:

Christopher Boettcher, Dale Scrace; Council: David Fries, Sheila Tomkowiak, Chris Walsh and Daniel Williams. We opted to hold a combined forum for both races, since candidates for mayor and council deal with the same issues as a leadership team. Questions focused on the proposed hotel project with Cambria Suites in GPC, location of the DPW on Mack Avenue and improvements the candidates could make to the City. It was standing room only for this forum, with 101 people attending.

The second forum was held October 11, 2017 at Services for Older Citizens (SOC) for the City of **Grosse Pointe Farms' Mayor race**. The following candidates participated in the forum: Joe Ricci and Louis Theros. Questions from the audience focused on recycling, getting more diversity into the community, improving infrastructure, proposed movie theater at the GP War Memorial, role of the Mayor in school finances, cooperative agreement with other Grosse Pointe cities on municipal services and possible plans to develop the property at Moross and Mack. Approximately 57 people braved the rain and wind to join us at this forum.



I was very pleased with the attendance at both forums-the attendees posed thoughtful and important questions to the candidates. In addition, both forums were video recorded (War Memorial staff on October 10 and Steve Geresy, GP South TV Production on October 11). The videos were streamed on our website and the WMTV community television station.

I extend a very special thanks to the following League members who helped make both forums a success:

Sue Acton (scheduler, flyer developer, question gatherer/greeter), question gatherers: Sarah Coats, Laurie Coplin, Wilhelmina Giblin, Peggy Hickey, Gordon Morlan; question sorters: Connie Frey, Judy Morlan, Mary Morshead and Carol Todd; timekeepers: George McMullen and Steve Trowbridge, moderators: Maria Rivera and Mary Zahler, refreshments: Debbie Sloss, promotion/news articles: Laurie Arora and Vicki Granger and Tom Wells, our President, for the banner set up and for his kind remarks to candidates and attendees. I also thank the many other League members who attended to support Voter Services and the forums. It is greatly appreciated!

Judy Florian
VP for Voter Services



["Like" the LWVGP on Facebook! And check out our activities here!](#)

[Join the League! Print out our membership form to mail in](#)

All who know her appreciate her generous nature and send their sympathy for this loss.

[New Member Handbook](#)

Also, one of our newer members, **Dave Munson**, passed away suddenly in August. He is survived by his wife, another new member, Jennifer, and two children, twins, aged 6. Our hearts and prayers go out to Jennifer and the two children in this difficult time.

The League of Women Voters encourages the informed and active participation of citizens in government; works to increase understanding of major public policy issues; and influences public policy through education and advocacy. The League is strictly nonpartisan, neither endorsing candidates nor supporting political parties. The LWVGP, in both its values and its practices, reaffirms its commitment to diversity. Membership is open to men and women of all ages.

League Links

Want to contact one of your government officials?

[Click here!](#)

Want to check LWVGP's calendar for the latest updates?

[Click here!](#)

[LWV Grosse Pointe](#)

[LWV Michigan](#)

[LWV United States](#)



League of Women Voters Grosse Pointe, 32 Lake Shore Drive, Grosse Pointe Farms, MI 48236

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